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ABSTRACT

This beautifully photographed book accompanies the Wynton Marsalis Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) series on the introduction to the joy of music, both classical and jazz, for families, young people, and music-hungry readers of all ages. Divided into four chapters, the book corresponds to the four one-hour programs in the PBS series. Wynton Marsalis uses wonderfully appealing examples and analogies to communicate the fundamentals of music. Chapter titles include: (1) "Why Toes Tap: RHYTHM" (explains why rhythm is the most fundamental element of music); (2) "Listening for Clues: FORM" (demystifies the concept of musical form, showing youngsters how to follow sonata form, theme, and variations, thirty-two-bar song form and blues form, and how to hear connections among them); (3) "From Sousa to Satchmo: The WIND BAND and the JAZZ BAND" (traces the links between the classic wind band of John Philip Sousa, Scott Joplin's ragtime, the birth of jazz in turn-of-the-century New Orleans, and the towering achievements of Louis Armstrong, giving a new appreciation for the vitality and substance of U.S. music at its best; and (4) "Tackling the Monster: PRACTICE" (offers guidelines for learning music that can be applied by young people to endeavors in every walk of life). (EH)

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